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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/824,985	04/15/2004	Kazuhiro Hara	450100-4879.1	7539

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NEW YORK, NY 10151

EXAMINER

LAFORGIA, CHRISTIAN A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2131

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11/09/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/824,985	Applicant(s) HARA, KAZUHIRO	
	Examiner Christian La Forgia	Art Unit 2131	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 October 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 19-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 19-37 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 April 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/309,412.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10/25/07</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 19 October 2007 has been entered.
2. Claims 20-37 have been presented for examination.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 20-37 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.
4. See further rejections set forth below.

Priority

5. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d). The certified copy has been filed in parent Application No. 09/309,412, filed on 10 May 1999. 6. The Applicant is required to submit a certified English translation of the foreign priority document to overcome the intervening references filed between 12 May 1998 and 10 May 1999, specifically RFC 2402: IP Authentication Header.

Information Disclosure Statement

7. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 25 October 2007 is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the examiner has considered the information disclosure statement.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

8. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

9. Claim 29 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Regarding claim 29, the phrase "such as" renders the claim indefinite because it is unclear whether the limitations following the phrase are part of the claimed invention. See MPEP § 2173.05(d).

10. Claims 32-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The term "frequently" in claim 32 is a relative term which renders the claim indefinite. The term "frequently" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention. See MPEP § 2173.05(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

11. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

12. Claims 20-24, 26-34, 36, and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,163,843 to Inoue et al., hereinafter Inoue.

13. As per claim 20, Inoue discloses a data transmission controlling method for controlling transmission of data from data transmitting means to data receiving means over communication channels and for causing said data transmitting means to encrypt data and

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transmit the encrypted data to said data receiving means over said communication channels, said data transmission controlling method comprising the steps of:

encapsulating the data to be transmitted in multiplexed fashion in accordance with a first protocol (Figures 12A-12D [Inner Protocols (IP/UDP/TCP)], column 12, lines 45-53, i.e. the inner protocols are encapsulated in an IP packet);

encrypting at least one of data capsules resulting from the encapsulation (Figure 12C [encrypted information], column 12, lines 45-53, i.e. as discussed below Section 3.2 of RFC 1825 describes encrypting the encapsulated data); and

encapsulating the encrypted data capsules in accordance with a second protocol (Figures 12A-12D [leftmost IPv4 Header], column 12, lines 45-53, i.e. as discussed below Section 3.2 of RFC 1825 describes encapsulating the encrypted encapsulated data in a new cleartext IP header)

wherein the first encapsulating step is done before the encrypting step (column 12, lines 45-53, i.e. as discussed below Section 3.2 of RFC 1825 describes encapsulating prior to encrypting the encapsulated data) and the first protocol pads a portion of 0 to 63 bits (Figures 12B and 12C [Authentication Header (AH)], column 12, lines 45-53, i.e. RFC 1826 is incorporated into Inoue at column 12, line 47. RFC 1826 discloses at Section 3.2 (printed pages 5 and 6 of 13) that many implementations of the authentication header require padding up to 64 bits). Inoue discloses the use of the IP security standard and refers to RFC documents 1825-1829. Printed pages 8 and 9 (of 21) of RFC 1825 (Section 3.2) provides more information regarding encapsulating an entire IP datagram or upper-layer protocols and encrypting that information before encapsulating it in a new cleartext IP header. Applicant is also directed to RFC documents 1826 (for information regarding the Authentication Header, abbreviated as AH

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in Inoue) and 1827 (for information regarding the Encapsulating Security Payload, abbreviated as ESP in Inoue) for information regarding encapsulation, encryption and padding. See MPEP § 2131.01 for the discussion on the use of multiple references.

14. Inoue does not teach wherein the padding is filled with a corresponding “1” as a suffix to the data.

15. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to fill the padding data with 1’s and add it as a suffix to the data. Since it is padding data and is there to act as filler, it is irrelevant what data is actually used to fill the padding information. Inoue and the RFC documents disclose the Authentication Header as being in the middle of the datagram (see Figures 12B and 12C of Inoue). Relocating the Authentication header to the rear of the datagram, thereby making the padding data suffix information to the entire datagram, would have required only routine skill in the art since it has been held that the mere relocation of a part is not patently distinguishable if it has no bearing on the operation of the device. See MPEP § 2144.04; see *In re Japikse*, 181 F.2d 1019, 86 USPQ 70 (CCPA 1950).

16. Regarding claims 21 and 22, Inoue discloses wherein said encapsulating in accordance with said first protocol supplements a real data part including said data to be transmitted to said data receiving means with an additional information part associated with said real data part and wherein said additional information part includes destination address information identifying the data receiving means authorized to receive data included in said real data part (Figure 12C [IPv4 header, middle of the packet], IPv4 headers include information such as source and destination address information).

17. Concerning claim 23, Inoue discloses wherein said destination address information is an individual (Figure 12C [IPv4 header, middle of the packet], IPv4 headers include information such as source and destination address information) or group destination address information (column 12, line 48, i.e. RFC 1825). Section 5.2 of RFC 1825 discloses using IPSec in a multicast type setting, thereby disclosing the group destination address information.

18. Concerning claim 24, Inoue discloses wherein said data transmitting means possesses session keys corresponding to said destination address information, said session keys being used by said data transmitting means to encrypt information and data and by said receiving means to decrypt the encrypted information and data received; and wherein said data transmitting means transmits in advance said session keys to the data receiving means authorized to receive the transmitted information and data in accordance with said destination address information (column 12, line 48, i.e. RFC 1825). Section 4.4 of RFC 1825 discloses the use of different session keys for each client on the network.

19. Concerning claim 26, Inoue discloses wherein said session keys are transmitted over a communication channel permitting from said data transmitting means to said data receiving means or bidirectional communication therebetween (column 12, line 48, i.e. RFC 1825). Section 4.4 of RFC 1825 discloses how the different session keys are distributed.

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20. With regards to claim 27, Inoue discloses wherein said encapsulating in accordance with said first protocol uniquely determines how said destination address information attached to said real data part is stored into said additional information part (column 12, lines 48, i.e. Section 3.2 of RFC 1825 describes encapsulating the data, see also RFC 1827), said encrypting step further encrypting said real data part using a master key specific to the data receiving means corresponding to said destination address information (column 12, line 48, i.e. RFC 1825). Section 4.4 of RFC 1825 discloses the use of different session keys for each client on the network.

21. Concerning claim 28, Inoue discloses wherein said additional information part provides a 48-bit space in which to accommodate said destination address information (Figures 12A-12D [IPv4 headers, Authentication Header]).

22. With regards to claim 29, Inoue wherein the communication channel is in a broadcast data transmission system, such as a satellite broadcast system, and said encapsulating in accordance with said first protocol uniquely encapsulates the data to be transmitted to said data receiving means in accordance with either the Internet protocol (Figures 12A-12D [leftmost IPv4 Header], column 12, lines 45-53) or the Ethernet protocol.

23. Regarding claims 30-31, 36-37, Inoue discloses wherein said data receiving means is constituted as a bridge or an IP router (Figures 1 [blocks 4a, 4c], 2 [blocks 4a, 4b, 4c], 3, 6 [blocks 4a, 4b], column 7, lines 21-38).

24. As per claim 32, Inoue discloses a data transmission controlling method for controlling the transmission of data from data transmitting means to data receiving means over communication channels and for causing said data transmitting means to encrypt data and transmit the encrypted data to said data receiving means over said communication channels, said data transmission controlling method comprising the steps of:

encapsulating the data to be transmitted in multiplexed fashion in accordance with a first protocol (Figures 12A-12D [Inner Protocols (IP/UDP/TCP)], column 12, lines 45-53, i.e. the inner protocols are encapsulated in an IP packet), wherein the first protocol pads a portion of 0 to 63 bits (Figures 12B and 12C [Authentication Header (AH)], column 12, lines 45-53, i.e. RFC 1826 is incorporated into Inoue at column 12, line 47. RFC 1826 discloses at Section 3.2 (printed pages 5 and 6 of 13) that many implementations of the authentication header require padding up to 64 bits);

encrypting the encapsulated data using an encryption key (Figure 12C [encrypted information], column 12, lines 45-53, i.e. Section 3.2 of RFC 1825 describes encrypting the encapsulated data);

supplementing the encrypted data with encryption key information about said encryption key (Figure 12C [Key Information Header (Key)]);

encapsulating the encrypted supplemental data in accordance with a second protocol (Figures 12A-12D [leftmost IPv4 Header], column 12, lines 45-53, i.e. as discussed below Section 3.2 of RFC 1825 describes encapsulating the encrypted encapsulated data in a new cleartext IP header);

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transmitting said encapsulated, encrypted data together with said encryption key information from said data transmitting means to said data receiving means (Figure 6, column 2, lines 57-64, column 6, line 64 to column 7, line 5); and

decrypting said encapsulated, encrypted data using one of a plurality of decryption keys which allow said data receiving means to decrypt said encrypted data and which are updated frequently, said one of the decryption keys being selected in accordance with said encryption key information attached to said encrypted data (column 6, line 64 to column 7, line 5, i.e. decryption is done according to the IPsec standards 1825-1827).

25. Inoue does not teach wherein the padding is filled with a corresponding "1" as a suffix to the data.

26. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to fill the padding data with 1's and add it as a suffix to the data. Since it is padding data and is there to act as filler, it is irrelevant what data is actually used to fill the padding information. Inoue and the RFC documents disclose the Authentication Header as being in the middle of the datagram (see Figures 12B and 12C of Inoue). Relocating the Authentication header to the rear of the datagram, thereby making the padding data suffix information to the entire datagram, would have required only routine skill in the art since it has been held that the mere relocation of a part is not patently distinguishable if it has no bearing on the operation of the device. See MPEP § 2144.04; see *In re Japikse*, 181 F.2d 1019, 86 USPQ 70 (CCPA 1950).

27. Regarding claim 33, Inoue discloses wherein said plurality of decryption keys include a decryption key which is currently usable for decrypting said encrypted data received, and a

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decryption key, encrypted data received; and wherein said data decrypting step selects the currently usable decryption key based on said encryption key information (column 12, line 48, RFCs 1825, 1826, 1827).

28. With regards to claim 34, Inoue discloses wherein said encryption key and said decryption keys are session keys for encrypting information and data (column 12, line 48, i.e. RFC 1825). Section 4.4 of RFC 1825 discloses the use of different session keys for each client on the network.

29. Claims 25 and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Inoue in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,178,244 B1 to Takeda et al., hereinafter Takeda.

30. Concerning claims 25 and 35, Inoue does not teach a data transmission controlling, wherein said session keys are updated at predetermined intervals.

31. Takeda discloses a data transmission controlling, wherein said session keys are updated at predetermined intervals (column 12, lines 38-44).

32. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to update the session keys at predetermined intervals, since a skilled artisan would realize that it would improve security. By updating session keys at predetermined intervals, it makes it more difficult for an eavesdropper to crack encrypted sessions because the keys are constantly changing.

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Conclusion

33. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

34. The following patents are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to the IP security standard, such as:

United States Patent No. 5,983,350 to Minear et al., which is cited to show an implementation of the IP security protocol.

United States Patent No. 6,167,513 to Inoue et al., which is cited to show a patent related to the one that was used to reject the claims of the instant application.


35. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christian La Forgia whose telephone number is (571) 272-3792. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Thursday 7-5.

36. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on (571) 272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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37. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Christian LaForgia
Patent Examiner
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CLF', is written over the printed name of the examiner.

clf